

destiny. We will preserve for our children this, the last best hope of man on Earth. If we fail, at least let our children and our children's children say of us, we justified our brief moment here. We did all that could be done."

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to swap my place with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

LEGISLATION TO UPDATE THE STATE DEPARTMENT REWARDS PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, a few hours ago I received a phone call from Captain Clay Fearnow, my former commanding officer in the Navy during the Kosovo conflict. Clay told me of a terrible loss we had suffered in the Navy family as part of the Pentagon disaster. Most of the Navy Command Center was hit, including the Chief of Naval Operations Intelligence plot offices. It is a point of intense personal loss for me and my family because of that information. My wife and I worked in that office. We know many people there. We want to offer our sympathy and support to the families of the victims in the Naval Intelligence Community that suffered this loss on Tuesday.

Mr. Speaker, we can do something about this, and I want to offer one suggestion in the form of legislation that we will be offering later on today.

In a previous life as a congressional staffer, I worked on legislation concerning the State Department Rewards Program offered for information leading to the arrest of individuals who lead terrorist attacks against Americans and American targets. This has been a very successful program, one until recently, where up to \$1 million was offered for the apprehension of these international criminals. Mr. Kansi that led the attack against people outside the CIA was one of the criminals caught by this program.

We had to update this program 2 years ago because the awards offered had become outdated and, in legislation lead by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) of the Committee on International Relations, we raised that amount to \$5 million. The program has grown and it has led to things like this.

After the Africa embassy bombings, the State Department was able to produce posters like this, and I want to

publicize today that under current U.S. law and authorities available, there is a \$5 million reward offered for the arrest of Osama bin Laden for a previous terrorist attack against U.S. embassies in Africa. These rewards are offered up to \$5 million for attackers against American embassies, bases, and American individuals, and for the arrest of United Nations war criminals. I will say in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia, over two dozen war criminals have been apprehended, including now the most famous, the former Serbian President, Slobodan Milosevic.

At the end of this day today, we will be offering legislation to increase the reward amount for terrorists that lead attacks against Americans to \$25 million, and we will authorize up to \$50 million in the rewards account. We need to offer additional funds because of the changing enemy we face. Probably for the first time in our history, we now know that many of the enemies we face are very wealthy individuals. It is also likely that they have the backing of governments, and higher awards are needed to spark the imagination of the public and press in other countries.

I want to commend the leaders of this effort that have already agreed to join us, such as the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), a real leader in catching war criminals and for the arrest of people who lead terrorist attacks against individuals. I also want to thank Chairman Smith who oversees the State Department accounts and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and many others who have agreed to sign on to this legislation. For other Members interested in signing on, we will be leaving the books open for original cosponsors until the close of business today.

I think this is one of the many aspects of the battle that we are yet to face, but with an increased awards account, I think we can show everyone the seriousness of our effort and help energize the investigation which is now ongoing.

NATIONAL DAY OF UNITY AND PRAYER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today we join the President of the United States in a national day of unity and prayer. I was moved by his citing of the words of Franklin Delano Roosevelt expressing the fact that warm courage exhibits national unity.

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I want to offer in particular today a moment of appreciation and thanks to our fellow colleagues from New York and the Washington and Virginia area, and, of course, in Pennsylvania.

Our eyes have been riveted on the good citizens of New York, the valor that they have shown, the spirit of comfort and unity that they have given to each other. Might I add that the Congress stands with them, behind them, and alongside of them.

Might I also say to the fallen men and women, the emergency workers, police and fire, coming from Houston, Texas, let me say to them on behalf of all of our citizens and the State of Texas, we mourn with them and we celebrate the lives of those who gave their lives.

But I come today to discuss very briefly another loss, another constituency of loss; that is, our children, the children of those fallen, either in the tragedy of their parent or a guardian being on those terrible planes, civilian airplanes being used as weapons, or those fallen in the World Trade Building.

We realize, along with our military personnel, that they are part of families and they are loved. I believe it is important as we debate today the resolution to go forward and to assist the President and consult with the President on how we will address these terrorist acts, let us not forget our children.

At the end of the day, I expect to offer and file a resolution that will help and encourage to expedite any benefits that are due and owing to children who have lost a guardian, a parent, or parents.

I am reminded of a story told by one of my staffers from New York. His sister attends a school just a few blocks away from the World Trade Buildings. I still believe that those buildings stand in spirit. She acknowledged to him that one of the youngsters that was her classmate saw two parents go off to work that morning, and has yet to see them as of today.

There will be many stories like that. Many of our children will need someone other than the parent or guardian to love them and to nourish them. Let us not have bureaucracy stand in the way of providing these children with their immediate needs, the monetary needs, as we embrace them to provide the nurturing needs, the medical assistance, the foster care assistance, the psychological needs. Let us wash away the entanglement of red tape, work with our State and local agencies, and push forward the needs of our children.

This concurrent resolution will have the Congress on record that we are prioritizing our children and expediting their needs. I would ask my colleagues to join me. This is already a bipartisan resolution, and I thank those who have agreed to work with me, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. KELLY), the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON), and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS),

and many others I would hope will join us in ensuring that we move forward on behalf of our children.

I close by simply saying that we will soon engage this Congress in a very important debate on how we proceed, whether in war or conflict. We must do it in a rational and a firm way with the facts. We must lead this country in a way that exhibits our valor and our courage so that we adhere to better angels and higher angels, and that in fact, that we believe in our freedom in a way that encourages peace and deliberation.

Yes, we will give retribution, but we will be firm and factual and studied. We will do it together, the President in consultation with Congress.

TERRORIST BOMBING

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, many of us have been quiet about what has happened this week, but many of us also feel the need to speak. What I say is not in the mold of reviewing it or condemning anything that has happened, but I just want to express some personal feelings about it and also a few opinions.

I will not revel in self-misery, although it is tempting to do so, but at least I want to share my experience with my colleagues and the American people.

Tuesday morning, as I was listening to the morning news, I heard about the airplane hitting the first tower. It was described as a two-engine plane, and since I am a former pilot, I assumed it was some amateur who had gotten off course, or some kook who was trying to do some damage with a small twin-engine plane.

I immediately turned on the television just in time to see the second plane approach, and immediately I knew it was terrorism, because it was obviously a large commercial airliner, and no large commercial airliner would be off course or score a direct hit in clear weather such as that.

I immediately headed for the Capitol. In doing so, I drove past the Pentagon. They had just been hit. That confirmed that indeed it was a very serious case of terrorism. The smoke was beginning to billow out. I drove to the Capitol; and at that time, a decision was made to evacuate it. I turned and headed back.

It was as I was driving back across the Potomac River and I crested the hill on the bridge, I saw the Pentagon with smoke billowing out of it that it hit me with full force. My immediate response was, what are they doing to my country? What are they doing to our country? It was with horror, disbelief, and shock.

It took more than a day for that to turn to anger, although anger was present at the beginning. But this has happened to all the Members of Congress, it is not just me. I hope the American people realize how deeply we feel their anguish, how deeply we feel their pain, and how much some of us have cried; how we hug each other out of a sense of this disaster. It has really hit us hard.

Why did this happen? Everyone is asking that. Why? It is very hard to believe, because Americans are good people. They try to do good things in the world. People hate us. Why do they hate us? We cannot comprehend that, but they do hate us. That is why they do these terrible things to us.

How can this be? Why do they hate us? Partly because they are enemies of freedom. They cannot stand the fact that we are a free country, and there are dictators in this world and many terrorists who want to rule in an absolute way. They cannot stand to see the success that we enjoy.

There are other reasons, of course, other types of enmities that peoples of other nations may have to us, but it does not match the hate and anger that these terrorists have.

On the positive side, let me note how much I and all the Members of Congress have been heartened by the reaction of the American people, the greatest outpouring of loyalty and patriotism that I have seen since World War II. There have been people in the streets wanting to do something good, and contributions are pouring in to those who have suffered. There is generosity. People are saying, as the President said this morning during the service of prayer and remembrance, there are people driving from Dallas with skin grafts to help the wounded here, and similarly, from my State of Michigan, and I believe from my hometown of Grand Rapids, driving in because they cannot fly in, driving in with skin grafts so people can be treated and heal.

What comes next? We must have retribution. Just in the name of justice, we must have retribution. But let me caution the American people, this takes time. We have a faceless, nameless enemy. The first task is to identify who did this.

This has been compared in many ways to Pearl Harbor, but it is very different in one sense. The enemy was clearly identified, and we proceeded for several years to arm to resolve that dispute.

This will take an equal amount of time, I am convinced, because it is not just one person. It is not just one terrorist camp, it is a network, I am convinced, that is lodged in a number of nations. We cannot simply knock out one and think we have solved the problem. We are going to have to deal with the entire problem.

I hope and pray that God will be with us. I hope and pray that our allies will continue to help us, and that, indeed, we will be able to have justice, we will have retribution and the world will once again enjoy peace.

WHAT WE CAN DO AS AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, every time that I have the privilege of addressing this House, I am reminded of indeed what a privilege it is to represent constituents from my own State of Ohio and to vote on laws affecting our Nation and the world.

This week in particular the magnitude of this privilege has come home to me again. I rise as a free citizen in the freest Nation on Earth, given the opportunity under our freedom of speech to speak my peace, but in a representative government.

As I think about what happened to America this week, I think about the forces of the world that are outside of governments and have no representative decision-making in the way that the civilized world understands. I am reminded of what happens to the world when that kind of force is allowed to work its evil in our country and other places.

As Members of Congress, we are given the privilege of traveling to many places. A few years ago, I remember going to one of the newly emerging nations of the world. During a session with the citizenry, I was asked, "Congresswoman KAPTUR, what makes you feel like a nation?" And I remember stepping back from the microphone for a moment and pondering that, and trying to answer the question that I was asked, why do your people feel like a nation?

This week, we have had many indicators of how deep our nationhood runs: the enormity of the valor that we have seen coast-to-coast, the thousands of acts of kindness and of decency that have accompanied this great tragedy that our entire Nation has suffered, and so many families have suffered so personally.

This morning as we sat at the prayer service and then stood for the posting of our colors, and I looked at all the battle-flag ribbons that walked into the church, and I thought about all the blood that had been shed, all the families, including ours, that had been affected by prior wars and prior engagements, I thought about the red in our flag, and I thought about the enormity of sacrifice that has maintained this Republic over our existence.

So many Americans have been writing me, my own constituents and others. We have been receiving letters from all over the world yesterday. I